

[Applicants : Todd W. Pastrick, Linda K. Molenkamp and Roger L. Koops
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an exterior mirror including a housing and a reflective element positioned in said housing;

a floodlight projecting light from said housing generally downwardly on an area adjacent a portion of the vehicle in order to create a lighted security zone in said area;

and

a1 an actuator for said floodlight including a base unit in the vehicle and a remote transmitter, wherein said base unit is responsive to a signal from said remote transmitter in order to actuate said floodlight, and wherein said actuator includes a lockout device in order to prevent actuation of said floodlight during operation of the vehicle. ✓

~~3. (unamended) The mirror system in claim 2 wherein said actuator further includes connection with an interior light circuit of the vehicle in order to actuate said floodlight when the interior lights of the vehicle are actuated.~~

~~4. (unamended) The mirror system in claim 1 wherein said actuator further includes connection with an interior light circuit of the vehicle in order to actuate said floodlight when the interior lights of the vehicle are actuated.~~

4s. (amended) [The mirror system in claim 1 further including] An exterior rearview mirror system for a vehicle comprising:

a2 an exterior mirror including a housing and a reflective element positioned in said housing;

a floodlight projecting light from said housing generally downwardly on an area adjacent a portion of the vehicle in order to create a lighted security zone in said area;

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an actuator for said floodlight including a base unit in the vehicle and a remote transmitter, wherein said base unit is responsive to a signal from said remote transmitter in order to actuate said floodlight; and

a warning light on said exterior mirror for projecting light from said exterior mirror generally rearwardly of the vehicle and another actuator for said warning light including a connection with at least one of a stoplight circuit and a turn signal circuit of the vehicle in order to actuate said warning light when at least one of said stoplight and said turn signal are being actuated.

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a2 6. (amended) [The mirror system in claim 1 further including] An exterior rearview mirror system for a vehicle comprising:

an exterior mirror including a housing and a reflective element positioned in said housing;

a floodlight projecting light from said housing generally downwardly on an area adjacent a portion of the vehicle in order to create a lighted security zone in said area;

an actuator for said floodlight including a base unit in the vehicle and a remote transmitter, wherein said base unit is responsive to a signal from said remote transmitter in order to actuate said floodlight; and

first and second warning lights on said exterior mirror, each adapted for projecting light from said housing generally rearwardly of the vehicle and actuators for said first and second warning lights including a connection with a stoplight circuit of the vehicle in order to actuate one of said first and second warning lights when the stoplights are being actuated and a connection with a turn signal circuit of the vehicle in order to actuate the other one of said first and second warning lights when the turn signal is being actuated.

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7. (unamended) The mirror system in claim 1 wherein said floodlight projects a pattern of light extending laterally onto the vehicle and downwardly and rearwardly of the vehicle, wherein the lighted security zone extends from the vehicle door to the rear of the vehicle.

8. (unamended) An exterior rearview mirror system for a vehicle comprising:

an exterior mirror including a housing and a reflective element positioned in said housing;

a floodlight for projecting a pattern of light from said housing on an area of ground adjacent a portion of the vehicle in order to create a lighted security zone in said area, said first pattern extending laterally onto the vehicle and downwardly and rearwardly of the vehicle, wherein said lighted security zone extends from the vehicle door to the rear of the vehicle; and

an actuator for said floodlight.

9. (unamended) The mirror system in claim 8 wherein said actuator includes a base unit in the vehicle and a remote transmitter, wherein said base unit is responsive to a signal from said remote transmitter in order to actuate said floodlight.

9 (amended) [The mirror system in claim 9] An exterior rearview mirror system for a vehicle comprising:

an exterior mirror including a housing and a reflective element positioned in said housing;

a floodlight for projecting a pattern of light from said housing on an area of ground adjacent a portion of the vehicle in order to create a lighted security zone in said area, said first pattern extending laterally onto the vehicle and downwardly and rearwardly of

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the vehicle, wherein said lighted security zone extends from the vehicle door to the rear of the vehicle; and

a3 an actuator for said floodlight including a base unit in the vehicle and a remote transmitter, wherein said base unit is responsive to a signal from said remote transmitter in order to actuate said floodlight, and wherein said actuator includes a lockout device in order to prevent actuation of said floodlight during operation of the vehicle.

11. (unamended) The mirror system in claim 9 wherein said actuator further includes connection with an interior light circuit of the vehicle in order to actuate said floodlight when the interior lights of the vehicle are being actuated.

11 12. (amended) [The mirror system in claim 8 further including] An exterior rearview mirror system for a vehicle comprising:

a4 an exterior mirror including a housing and a reflective element positioned in said housing;

3 a floodlight for projecting a pattern of light from said housing on an area of ground adjacent a portion of the vehicle in order to create a lighted security zone in said area, said first pattern extending laterally onto the vehicle and downwardly and rearwardly of the vehicle, wherein said lighted security zone extends from the vehicle door to the rear of the vehicle; ✓

an actuator for said floodlight; and

a signal light adapted to projecting another pattern of light from said housing and connected with at least one of a stoplight circuit and a turn signal circuit of the vehicle in order to actuate said signal light when at least one of the stoplights and turn signal are being actuated.

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13. (unamended) The mirror system in claim 12 wherein said another pattern of light extends laterally away from the vehicle and rearwardly of the vehicle wherein said another pattern can be observed directly by a driver of another vehicle passing said vehicle but not by a driver of said vehicle.

14. (unamended) The mirror system in claim 12 wherein each of said floodlight and said signal light are generated by an incandescent lamp positioned in said housing.

15. (unamended) The mirror system in claim 12 wherein each of said floodlight and said signal light are generated by a light emitting diode positioned in said housing.

a 1 16. (unamended) The mirror system in claim 12 wherein each of said floodlight and said signal light are generated by a vacuum fluorescent lamp.

17. (unamended) The mirror system in claim 12 wherein each of said floodlight and said signal light are generated by a light source in the vehicle and a light pipe between said light source and said housing.

18. (unamended) The mirror system in claim ¹² wherein said floodlight generates said ~~first~~ pattern through a non-filtering lens wherein said first pattern of light is white.

19. (unamended) The mirror system in claim 12 wherein said signal light generates said ~~second~~ ^{another} pattern through a filtering lens wherein said second pattern is red or amber.

20. (unamended) An exterior rearview mirror system for a vehicle comprising:

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an exterior mirror including a housing and a reflective element positioned in said housing;

a floodlight adapted to projecting light from said housing generally downwardly on an area adjacent a portion of the vehicle in order to create a lighted security zone in said area; and

an actuator for said floodlight including a lockout device in order to prevent actuation of said floodlight during operation of the vehicle.

21. (unamended) The mirror system in claim 20 wherein said actuator further includes connection with an interior light circuit of the vehicle in order to actuate said floodlight when the interior lights of the vehicle are being actuated.

22. (unamended) The mirror system in claim 20 further including a signal light adapted to projecting light from said housing generally rearwardly of the vehicle and connected with at least one of a stoplight circuit and a turn signal circuit of the vehicle in order to actuate said signal light when at least one of the stoplights and turn signal are being actuated.

23. (unamended) The mirror system in claim 20 further including first and second signal lights, each adapted to projecting light from said housing generally rearwardly of the vehicle and connected with one of a stoplight circuit and a turn signal circuit of the vehicle wherein one of said first and second signal lights is actuated when the stoplights are being actuated and the other one of said first and second signal lights is actuated when the turn signal is being actuated.